

Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-05

OMB-01 SS-15 MED-03 HEW-06 DODE-00 L-02 ABF-01 /087 W

----- 029155

R 051040Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1647

UNCLAS KABUL 1429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, AF, XX

SUBJ: DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION/TREATMENT PROGRAMS

FOR DG/XPD, DG/MED. PASS TO NSC/SAODAP, HEW/NIDA, S/NM AND
DOD/ASD (H&E)

REF: STATE 42917

LETTER PARAGRAPHS KEYED TO FORMAT SUGGESTED REFTEL
IF) AMEMBASSY AND AMCIT COMMUNITY KABUL DO NOT OPERATE
"FACILITY" IN ANY SENSE OF ORGANIZATION OR ESTABLISHMENT DEVOTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT. COMMUNITY
DOES HAVE TWO PROGRAMS WHICH RELATE STRONGLY TO
DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION. FIRST OF THESE IS YOUTH CENTER WHERE
ACTIVITIES PROGRAM TRIES TO INSURE THAT HEALTHY INTERESTS OF
YOUNG PEOPLE CAN BE PERSUED. SECOND IS ACTIVITY RANGE OF RESIDENT
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, WHOSE WORK IN MENTAL HEALTH AND COUNSELL-
ING IN FAMILY PROBLEMS (PARTICULARLY RELATING TO CHILD-
PARENT COMMUNICATIONS) HAVE HAD INESTIMABLE SUCCESS IN WARDING
OFF SITUATIONS WHERE DRUG ABUSE MIGHT HAVE RESULTED FROM UNFOR-
TUNATE OR UNPLEASANT PERSONAL SITUATIONS.

B) THE YOUTH CENTER WAS ORGANIZED DURING LATE SPRING OF 1974
AND HIRED A FULLTIME DIRECTOR ON JUNE 1, 1974. IT IS "SPONSORED",
IN THE SENSE OF SUPPORT, BY ALL SEGMENTS OF THE COMMUNITY
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INCLUDING EMBASSY, THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF

KABUL (AISK), AND THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION. (SEE SECTION E BELOW.) DIRECTOR IS MR. ANTHONY AGNELLO WHOSE MAILING ADDRESS IS C/O AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF KABUL. IT IS GUIDED BY COMMUNITY YOUTH FORUM WHOSE MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES EMBASSY MEDICAL OFFICER AND ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, DR. RICHARD WESTMAAS, IS BASED AT DISPENSARY AS PART OF MISSION MEDICAL TEAM. HE IS EMPLOYED DIRECTLY BY KABUL MISSION UNDER AUTHORIZATION OF DEPT.OF STATE MEDICAL DIVISION FOR ONE-YEAR "PILOT PROJECT". (NOTE: WESTMAAS RECENTLY TRAVELLED TO THREE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES IN PAKISTAN AT LAHOCA, KARACHI AND ISLAMABAD FOR CONSULTATIONS THERE. IF POSITION IS MADE PERMANENT IT MAY BE ON REGIONAL BASIS.)

C) ALL YOUNG AMERICAN RESIDENTS IN KABUL HAVE ACCESS TO YOUTH CENTER, INCLUDING CHILDREN OF EMBASSY STAFF, (WHICH INCLUDES SIZABLE DATT ORGANIZATION), USAID AND USAID CONTRACTOR AND PASA PERSONNEL, USIS, PEACE CORPS, AND PRIVATE CITIZENS. CENTER IS ALSO USED BY NON-U.S. CITIZEN STUDENTS AT AISK, PRINCIPALLY CHILDREN OF OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSION OFFICERS AND UNITED NATIONS.

DR. WESTMAAS HAS INSTITUTED NUMEROUS SEMINARS FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN PROMOTING COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING IN THE FAMILY ENVIRONMENT. AT AISK HE WORKS WITH INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AND WITH STUDENT COUNCIL. ALTHOUGH ARRK IS BEAMED AT "OFFICIAL" AMERICAN COMMUNITY (WHICH IS VIRTUALLY ALL THE AMERICANS LIVING IN KABUL) HIS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS LINK HIM WITH PERSONS OF OTHER NATIONALITY AND STATUS.

D) YOUTH CENTER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE COURSE WORK IN SUCH DIVERSE FIELDS AS AUTO MECHANICS AND GOURMET COOKING, AS WELL AS PARTIES, DANCES AND FIELD TRIPS.

WITH REGARD TO DR. WESTMAAS ACTIVITIES AS ALREADY STATED IT SHOULD BE ADDED THAT HE IS NOT RPT NOT INTERESTED IN PRESENTING "DRUG PROGRAMS" PER SE. HIS METHODS ARE INTENDED TO SEEK THE ROOT CAUSES OF DRUG ABUSE, AND THROUGH THEIR ALLEVIATION REDUCE DRUG ABUSE AS A COMMUNITY AND PERSONAL PROBLEM.

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E) DURING FISCAL 75 YOUTH CENTER HAS RECEIVED FUNDS FROM WIDE VARIETY OF SOURCES. RENT AND UTILITIES PER ANNUM RUN AT \$1,950 AND \$1,250 RESPECTIVELY, WITH TOTAL OF \$3,200 PAID FROM SAS BUDGET. DEPT. OF STATE OVERSEAS SCHOOL FUND CONTRIBUTED \$10,000 OF WHICH \$7,000 IS PAID AS SALARY TO CENTER DIRECTOR AND \$3,000 EXPENDED TOWARD HIS TRAVEL AND OTHER ALLOWANCES. DONATIONS AND GRANTS ARE RECEIVED FROM VARIOUS

ELEMENTS OF COMMUNITY, FOR EXAMPLE AMERICAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION MADE DONATIONS DURING AUGUST AND OCTOBER TOTALLING MORE THAN \$3,500. DONATIONS OF MATERIALS ALSO HAVE BEEN FORTHCOMING, FOR EXAMPLE A JEEP FOR AUTO MECHANICS COURSE, SOUND EQUIPMENT, PIANO, PING PONG TABLE, FURNITURE, ETC. SALARY AND ALLOWANCES OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST WESTMAAS ARE PAID BY MEDICAL DIVISION AT FSR RATE.

F) ESTIMATE OF U.S. COMMUNITY RESIDING IN KABUL FY1976 IS FOR TOTAL OF ABOUT 450, (EXCLUSIVE OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS AND TEMPORARY RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS). BREAKDOWN BY AGENCY AS FOLLOWS (NUMBERS LISTED ARE FOR PRINCIPAL, SPOUSES AND CHILDREN):

STATE 38 25 44
AID 82 67 66
USIS 5 4 8
DATT 16 14 28
PC 4 4 6
AISK 19 7 8
DEA 2

G) BELIEVE THAT YOUTH CENTER CAN BE RUN DURING FY 1976 FOR BASICALLY SAME AMOUNTS AS FY 1975 PLUS 15 PERCENT INCREASED COST FACTOR. THIS ASSUMES OF COURSE CONTINUED WILLINGNESS OF AMERICAN COMMUNITY TO SUPPORT PROJECT THROUGH DONATIONS OF TIME AND MONEY.

H) POST BELIEVES ITS YOUTH PROGRAM AND SERVICES OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST ARE EXTREMELY VALUABLE IN WARDING OFF KINDS OF DRUG PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED ELSEWHERE AND AT ONE TIME EVEN THREATENING KABUL AMERICAN COMMUNITY. OF GREAT IMPORTANCE IS CONTINUANCE OF PILOT PROGRAM FOR HAVING RESIDENT PSYCHOLOGIST. POST MOST STRONGLY URGES DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUED SUPPORT
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FOR THIS PROGRAM AND EXTENSION OF "PILOT PROJECT" AT LEAST FOR ANOTHER YEAR. WE BELIEVE THIS IS MERITED BY KABUL CONSIDERATIONS ALONE, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT IS CONSIDERED THAT SERIOUS DRUG SITUATIONS IN PAST HAVE BEEN CAUSE OF FAMILIES LEAVING KABUL SUDDENLY. COSTS OF SUCH DISRUPTIONS ALONE WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE THAT INVESTMENT IN PSYCHOLOGIST IS WORTH THE MONEY. AS WE VIEW POSSIBILITY OF "REGIONALIZING" POSITION ITS RETURNS PER DOLLAR INVESTED SEEM EVEN MORE A BARGAIN.
ELIOT

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: SNAR, AF, XX
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